

From: [Kathleen O'Keefe](#)
To: [Gowers, Joe](#)
Cc: [Seppi, Pat](#)
Subject: RE: EPA's Proposed Plan Groundwater Contamination at the Ringwood Mines/Landfill Superfund Site in New Jersey
Date: Sunday, August 02, 2020 1:51:07 PM

I write to comment on the EPA's proposed groundwater plan for the Ringwood Mines.

I moved to Ringwood in 1995. At that time Ringwood had been removed from the State list of Superfund Sites. Sadly in 2006 it was relisted.

The relisting of Ringwood among the nation's 1,246 Superfund sites was an acknowledgment by the E.P.A. that the site had not been sufficiently cleaned up when it was removed from the list. Ford through their dumping have contaminated a sole source aquifer in the "protected" NJ Highlands.

This time the EPA needs to get it right! The proposed groundwater plan set forth by the EPA falls short of accomplishing this goal. The two Jacobs Reports commissioned by North Jersey District Supply Commission recommends a pump and treat system. This is the most efficient, effective, and safest way to right this wrong.

Upper Ringwood is a minority community and they have lived here for generations. In the past the local government has treated this community with disrespect, disregarding their physical and emotional wellbeing. This injustice is a direct result of the systemic racism inbred into past government's decisions.

The Upper Ringwood Community have been locked out of all decision-making regarding the remedy of the Superfund Site. The community was promised that this time their concerns and fears, which were ignored during the first listing, would be paramount this time around. Sadly this is not the case, once again the most important stakeholders have been ignored.

The community does not support the EPA's proposed groundwater plan and neither do I! It's time the EPA did what was right for both the community and the 3.5 million residents who rely on the Wanaque Reservoir for drinking water. Implement a pump and treat system since this is the most efficient, effective, and safest way to right this wrong.

Sincerely,
Kathy

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